

Remarks

In this amendment Claims 23 and 25 have been cancelled without prejudice to expedite allowance of the remaining pending claims. Claims 2, 5, 7, 10-22, 26, and 30-42, which were previously withdrawn, have been cancelled without prejudice. Consequently, Claims 1, 3-4, 6, 8-9, and 43-48 are pending.


Claims 23 and 25 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,136,305 issued to Ims. Claims 23 and 25 have only been cancelled to expedite allowance of the remaining pending claims. Hence, the rejection is moot. Applicants expressly reserve the right to re-file claims 23 and 25, and/or claims of similar or differing scope in one or more divisional/continuing applications.

In accordance with the Office Action, the pending Claims 1, 3-4, 6, 8-9, 43-48 are allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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